

REMARKS

Claims 5-7 and 23-56 are pending in the application. Claims 1-4 and 8-22 have been canceled. Claims 23-56 have been added.

I. Amendment of the Written Description and Drawings

The Reference to Related Applications section of the written description has been amended to recite the correct provisional application number and filing date. No petition for an unintentionally delayed claim under 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(5) is being submitted, as this priority claim in the parent application has previously been corrected, and the parent application was filed prior to November 29, 2000. (See MPEP §201.11).

Other amendments to the written description and drawings similarly mirror changes previously made in the parent application. The drawings have been amended to relabel the first Figure 2B as Figure 2A, and a boxed in illustration that was formerly part of this figure has now been separately labeled as Figure 2C. The second Figure 2B of the informal drawings remains labeled as Figure 2B. Other amendments are summarized in the following TABLE:

TABLE

REF. NO.	FIG(S)	ELEMENT	CHANGE MADE	DISCUSSION IN SPECIFICATION
220	2A, 2B	Optical collection axis	ref. no. added to figure	Fig. 2A - page 4, line 23 Fig. 2B - page 5, line 12
400	4	Optical tweezers	ref. no. deleted from text	Page 9, line 9
425	4	Light reflected from surface	position of ref. no. changed in fig.	Page 9, line 15
430	4	Output	ref. no. added to figure	Page 9, line 16
500	5	Output mirror	ref. no. 508 corrected to 500 in text	Page 10, line 11

For the Examiner's convenience, a fresh set of all the drawings reflecting these changes has been provided. The above-mentioned amendments are made for purposes of clarification only, and do not affect the scope of any of the pending claims.

II. Amendment of the Claims

Turning now to amendment of the claims, it is noted that during prosecution of parent patent application no. 09/441,152, a first office action addressed patentability of all of the originally-filed claims. A copy of this first office action in the parent case is enclosed for the Examiner's reference.

In response to the first office action in the parent application, that application was amended to include claims corresponding to claims 23-56 now added to the instant divisional application. In response to a subsequent restriction requirement in the parent application, Applicants elected to prosecute a group of the originally-filed claims, and claims corresponding to claims 23-56 of the instant application were withdrawn. These claims have now been introduced to this divisional application for examination.

Specifically, originally-filed claims 1-4 relating to a spherical lens have been canceled, and replaced by claims 23-41 relating to an optical device, with original claims 5-7 amended to depend from claim 23. In addition, originally-filed claims 13-22 directed to a light focusing method have now been canceled and replaced with new claims 42-56 drawn to a that subject matter.

Appl. No.: 09/441,152
Amdt. dated June 24, 2003
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

Applicants respectfully request Examination of the instant divisional patent application in light of the above amendments and remarks. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kent J. Tobin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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